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(54) Title: FERTILISER (57) Abstract The present invention provides a liquid fertiliser comprising a mixture of a salt of phosphorous acid together with either a thiosulphate such as ammonium or potassium thiosulphate and/or a salt of salicylic acid or salicyl amide. The use of this combination as a foliar spray, soil drench or irrigation component produces a greater fertiliser effect (on plant vigour and growth) and greater resistance to or control of parasitic fungal diseases, than each of the components applied individually or any combination of just two components.		

1
Fertiliser

The present invention relates to novel compositions having fertilising and anti-fungal effects, to processes for their preparation, and to methods of fertilising plants and controlling fungi using them.

5 Phosphorus is one of the essential major elements required by plants and it is usually supplied to plants in the form of phosphate and/or polyphosphate. Phosphates are the salts of phosphoric acid (having the formula H_3PO_4 and molecular weight of 98). In recent years, it has been shown that plants can obtain phosphorus from phosphonates (sometimes also referred to as phosphites) which
10 are the salts (organic or inorganic) of phosphonic acid (also referred to as phosphorous acid) (having the formula H_3PO_3 and molecular weight of 82). See, for example, US Patent Nos. 5,514,200 & 5,830,255 to Lovatt; US Patent No. 5,707,418 to Hsu; US Patent No. 5,800,837 to Taylor. These describe formulations containing phosphorous acid or phosphonates suitable as fertilisers
15 for plants. It has also been shown that phosphonate compounds are useful as fungicides, especially where the fungal organisms are phycomycetes or oomycetes. See, for example, US Patent Nos. 4,075,324 & 4,119,724 to Thizy; US Patent No. 4,139,616 to Lacroix et al; US Patent Nos. 4,698,334, 4,806,445 & 5,169,646 to Horriere et al; US Patent Nos 4,935,410 & 5,070,083 to Bartlet; US
20 Patent No. 5,736,164 to Taylor. These describe formulations, containing phosphorous acid or phosphonates, suitable as fungicides for plants.

 Ammonium thiosulphate and potassium thiosulphate, either alone or mixed with other liquid fertiliser components, have been used for many years as fertilisers. See literature on "Thio-sul"® and KTS® sulphur fertilisers produced
25 by Tessenderlo Kerley. See also UK Patent No. GB 2,259,912 to Sampson, which describes the use of ammonium thiosulphate in a plant growth stimulator.

 WPI Abstract Accession No. 91-249421 discloses a cut flower preserving agent comprising a water-soluble silver salt (100 pts. wt.) and thiosulphate (300-2500 pts. wt.) to which a phosphite (30-300 pts. wt.) is added as a stabilising
30 agent.

Some of the problems with the prior art are that the fertilising effect of phosphonate is less than might be expected from the amount of phosphorus applied, and the fungicidal effect is fairly limited in terms of the types of pathogen controlled. This is due to a complex mode of action involving a combination of some fungistatic action and natural plant defences coming into play (See Guest D I & Grant B R (1991) - The Complex action of phosphonates in plants - Biological Reviews 66, 159-187). The use of phosphonate, whilst improving the resistance of plants to infections of downy mildew (eg Plasmopora) and Phytophthora diseases, does tend to increase the risk of ascomycete (eg Erysiphe) infections. The present invention seeks to provide a solution to these problems.

According to one aspect of the present invention there is provided a fertiliser composition comprising at least one phosphonate and at least one thiosulphate.

According to another aspect of the present invention there is provided a fertiliser composition comprising at least one phosphonate and at least one salicylic acid, homologue, derivative, or salt thereof.

According to yet another aspect of the present invention there is provided a fertiliser composition comprising at least one thiosulphate and at least one salicylic acid, homologue, derivative, or salt thereof.

According to a further aspect of the present invention there is provided a fertiliser composition comprising at least one thiosulphate, at least one phosphonate and at least one salicylic acid, homologue, derivative, or salt thereof.

The present invention comprises using a mixture of a phosphonate together with either a thiosulphate, or at least one salicylic acid, homologue, derivative, or salt thereof. The use of this combination shows a synergistic effect, in that the combination of phosphonate with thiosulphate or salicylic acid, homologues, salts or derivatives thereof produces a greater fertiliser effect and fungicidal effect than the individual components used separately. There may be

an even greater effect if all three components (ie phosphonate, thiosulphate and salicylic acid, homologue, salt or derivative thereof) were used together. The combination of thiosulphate with a salicylic acid, homologue, salt or derivative thereof, in the absence of phosphonate, also produces a fertiliser effect and fungicidal effect.

Fertilisers based on the present invention provide a greater growth effective response than phosphonates or thiosulphates alone and the degree of fungicidal protection or resistance is broader than that achieved with phosphonates or thiosulphates alone. Plants treated with the present invention suffer less from phycomycete diseases (for example *phytophthoras* and downy mildews) than those treated with for example phosphonate alone and are also less prone to other parasitic fungi such as powdery mildews. Thus the present invention provides a means for applying a single product to plants which is an effective fungicide as well as an effective fertiliser.

Another advantage of the present invention is that the formulation is very storage stable, for example tests on mixtures of potassium phosphonate and ammonium thiosulphate stored for over one year have shown that there is no oxidation of the phosphonate to phosphate and the stored material shows no signs of cloudiness or precipitation. The use of further organic acids as buffers (as in required in US Patent Nos. 5,514,200 & 5,830,255) is also not required to achieve stable solutions.

By "phosphonate" we mean a salt of phosphonic acid (H_3PO_3). Phosphonates contain the trivalent $\equiv\text{PO}_3$ radical. For the avoidance of doubt, phosphonic acid is sometimes referred to as phosphorous acid and its salts as phosphites. Mixtures of phosphonates may be employed.

The phosphonate may be any metal ion or other cation which forms such a salt. As phosphonic acid has a P-H bond it forms a mono and di series of salts. Both mono and di salts and mixtures thereof may be used in the present invention. Preferably the phosphonate is an ammonium phosphonate or alkali phosphonate. Amongst the alkali phosphonates, sodium or potassium

phosphonate are preferred. Potassium phosphonate is particularly preferred, in the form of mono- and/or di-potassium phosphonate (KH_2PO_3 , K_2HPO_3 respectively).

Phosphonates may be produced by the neutralisation of phosphonic acid by an alkali. The present invention also encompasses the use of phosphonic acid which is subsequently converted to its phosphonate; this conversion may take place in situ or ex situ. When using, for example, potassium hydroxide for the neutralisation, depending on the molar ratio of potassium hydroxide to phosphorous acid, the phosphonate solution will contain varied amounts of di-potassium phosphonate, mono-potassium phosphonate and un-reacted phosphorous acid. We have found that an approximately 42% w/w solution, having a pH of between 6.7 and 7.3 and containing approximately equal amounts of mono- and di-potassium phosphonate is a clear, colourless and very stable starting material for our present invention.

The thiosulphate may be any suitable salt of a metal or other cation. Preferably the thiosulphate is ammonium, sodium or potassium thiosulphate or a mixture thereof. More preferably the thiosulphate is in the form of either ammonium or potassium thiosulphate ($(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ or $\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$).

The most common form of thiosulphate is ammonium thiosulphate, and this is readily available commercially as a 60% w/w solution, with a pH of about 7.5 and a specific gravity of about 1.32. If a higher proportion of potassium is required in the final foliar fertiliser, the ammonium thiosulphate can be substituted, either partly or wholly, with potassium thiosulphate.

The present invention includes functional homologues and derivatives of salicylic acid and its salts. By this we mean that the functional homologue or derivative should be capable of providing a fertiliser effect and/or antifungal effect. Examples of such derivatives of salicylic acid include salicylamide or a salt thereof, and esters.

Examples of homologues of salicylic acid include benzoic acid or a salt or derivative thereof, such as an ester. Examples of benzoic acid compounds which may be used in the present invention may be found in WO99/25191.

The salicylic acid is preferably in the form of its potassium salicylate salt or salicylamide - $C_7H_5KO_3$ or $C_7H_7NO_2$.

Salicylic acid itself has low solubility, but inorganic salts of salicylic acid, such as sodium or potassium salicylate are readily soluble. When salicylamide is used, rather than salicylic acid or a salicylate, the addition of a few drops of alkali assists in its solution, by forming for example sodium or potassium salicylamide. Salicylamide also dissolves more readily in the thiosulphate solution, the presence of small amounts of alkali or ammonia in the thiosulphate solution assisting in the solubilisation.

The preparation of the compounds used in the present invention is well known in the art. The compounds may be prepared in situ or ex situ.

In one embodiment, the composition of the present invention does not include a water-soluble silver salt. In another embodiment, if the composition contains a solution of 100 parts by weight water-soluble silver salt, and 300-2500 parts by weight thiosulphate, then the amount of phosphonate is other than 30 to 300 parts by weight

The compositions of the present invention are useful as fertiliser, particularly foliar fertilisers. More particularly the compositions of the present invention increase plant growth compared to the individual components alone, stimulate growth in plants, plant vigour and/or effect crop yield, for example by reducing tuber blight.

The compositions of the present invention also have an antifungal effect. This may be a fungicidal or fungistatic effect. The compositions of the present invention may have activity against parasitic fungi. The compositions may have activity against phycomycete diseases such as *phytophthoras* and downy mildews, for example, *Plasmopora*; and/or ascomycetes such as, for example, *Erysiphe*.

In one particularly preferred embodiment the composition further comprises further a plant growth regulator. Preferably the plant growth regulator is chlormequat.

In order to apply the composition to the plant or environs of the plant, the composition may be used as a concentrate or more usually is formulated into a composition which includes an effective amount of the composition of the present invention together with a suitable inert diluent, carrier material and/or surface active agent. Preferably the composition is in the form of an aqueous solution which may be prepared from the concentrate. By effective amount we mean that the composition (and/or its individual components) provides a fertilising and/or antifungal effect. Preferably an effective amount of the components is a concentration of up to about 4M phosphonate, up to about 5M thiosulphate and/or up to about 0.8M salicylate. Thus, in one embodiment the concentrate may comprise up to about 10M of the components. The concentrate formulation may for example be diluted at ratios of concentrate to water of about 1:40 to 1:600, and generally is formulated to have pH of about 6.5 to 8.5. At a 1:40 dilution, a concentrate of about 10M would give rise to an application concentrate of up to about 0.25M.

The rate and timing of application will depend on a number of factors known to those skilled in the art, such as the type of species etc.

The composition is generally applied in an amount of from 0.01 to 10kg per hectare, preferably 0.1 to 6kg per hectare. Preferably the phosphonate is applied at 150 g/ha to 2 kg/ha. Preferably the thiosulphate is applied at 250 g/ha to 6 kg/ha. Preferably the salicylic acid, a homologue, derivative, or salt thereof is applied at 1 g/ha to 100 g/ha.

In one preferred embodiment, a fertiliser composition according to the present invention comprises about 150 g/l phosphonate, about 275 g/l thiosulphate and/or about 10 g/l salicylamide. Preferably the phosphonate comprises about 75 g/l mono-potassium phosphonate and about 75 g/l di-potassium phosphonate.

As well as varying amounts of each compound to be blended together, as is common with many foliar fertilisers, it is also possible to combine other fertilising elements, such as but not limited to, iron, copper, boron and molybdenum (often known as micronutrients) in the final solution. These may be added as soluble inorganic compounds (eg sodium borate or sodium molybdate) or as chelates (eg copper EDTA) or other metal complexes.

The compositions of the present invention can be applied to the soil, plant, seed, or other area to be protected. Preferably the present invention is applied to the foliage of plants. The composition may be applied in the form of dusting powders, wettable powders, granules (slow or fast release), emulsion or suspension concentrates, liquid solutions, emulsions, seed dressings, or controlled release formulations such as microencapsulated granules or suspensions, soil drench, irrigation component, or preferably a foliar spray.

Dusting powders are formulated by mixing the active ingredient with one or more finely divided solid carriers and/or diluents, for example natural clays, kaolin, pyrophyllite, bentonite, alumina, montmorillonite, kieselguhr, chalk, diatomaceous earths, calcium phosphates, calcium and magnesium carbonates, sulfur, lime, flours, talc and other organic and inorganic solid carriers.

Granules are formed either by absorbing the active ingredient in a porous granular material for example pumice, attapulgite clays, fuller's earth, kieselguhr, diatomaceous earths, ground corn cobs, and the like, or on to hard core materials such as sands, silicates, mineral carbonates, sulfates, phosphates, or the like. Agents which are commonly used to aid in impregnation, binding or coating the solid carriers include aliphatic and aromatic petroleum solvents, alcohols, polyvinyl acetates, polyvinyl alcohols, ethers, ketones, esters, dextrans, sugars and vegetable oils, with the active ingredient. Other additives may also be included, such as emulsifying agents, wetting agents or dispersing agents.

Microencapsulated formulations (microcapsule suspensions CS) or other controlled release formulations may also be used, particularly for slow release over a period of time, and for seed treatment.

Alternatively the compositions may be in the form of liquid preparations to be used as dips, irrigation additives or sprays, which are generally aqueous dispersions or emulsions of the active ingredient in the presence of one or more known wetting agents, dispersing agents or emulsifying agents (surface active agents). The compositions which are to be used in the form of aqueous dispersions or emulsions are generally supplied in the form of an emulsifiable concentrate (EC) or a suspension concentrate (SC) containing a high proportion of the active ingredient or ingredients. An EC is an homogeneous liquid composition, usually containing the active ingredient dissolved in a substantially non-volatile organic solvent. An SC is a fine particle size dispersion of solid active ingredient in water. To apply the concentrates they are diluted in water and are usually applied by means of a spray to the area to be treated.

Suitable liquid solvents for ECs include methyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, cyclohexanone, xylenes, toluene, chlorobenzene, paraffins, kerosene, white oil, alcohols (for example, butanol), methylnaphthalene, trimethylbenzene, trichloroethylene, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone and tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol (THFA).

These concentrates are often required to withstand storage for prolonged periods and after such storage, to be capable of dilution with water to form aqueous preparations which remain homogeneous for a sufficient time to enable them to be applied by conventional spray equipment. The concentrates may contain 1-85% by weight of the active ingredient or ingredients. When diluted to form aqueous preparations such preparations may contain varying amounts of the active ingredient depending upon the purpose for which they are to be used.

The composition may also be formulated as powders (dry seed treatment DS or water dispersible powder WS) or liquids (flowable concentrate FS, liquid seed treatment LS), or microcapsule suspensions CS for use in seed treatments. The formulations can be applied to the seed by standard techniques and through conventional seed treaters. In use the compositions are applied to the plants, to

the locus of the plants, by any of the known means of applying fertiliser compositions, for example, by dusting, spraying, or incorporation of granules.

When the final solution is to be applied to plants which, because of their hairy or waxy surface, may be difficult to wet, it may also be advantageous to
5 include other additives, commonly known in the agrochemical industry, such as surfactants, wetting agents, spreaders and stickers. (Examples of wetting agents include silicone surfactants, nonionic surfactants such as alkyl ethoxylates, anionic surfactants such as phosphate ester salts and amphoteric or cationic surfactants such as fatty acid amido alkyl betaines).

10 As indicated above, the compounds of the invention may be the sole active ingredient of the composition or they may be admixed with one or more additional active ingredients such as nematicides, insecticides, synergists, herbicides, additional fungicides, additional fertilisers or plant growth regulators where appropriate.

15 As indicated above, the fertilisers produced according to this present invention are usually applied to the foliage of plants but may also be applied to the soil or added to the irrigation water. The fertilisers may be used advantageously on many types of agricultural and horticultural crops, including but not limited to, cereals, legumes, brassicas, cucurbits, root vegetables, sugar
20 beet, grapes, citrus & other fruit trees and soft fruits. More particularly, crops that will benefit from the fertiliser include, but are not limited to, peas, oil seed rape, carrots, spring barley, avocado, citrus, mango, coffee, deciduous tree crops, grapes, strawberries and other berry crops, soybean, broad beans and other commercial beans, corn, tomato, cucurbitis and other cucumis species, lettuce,
25 potato, sugar beets, peppers, sugar cane, hops, tobacco, pineapple, coconut palm and other commercial and ornamental palms, rubber and other ornamental plants.

Various further preferred features and embodiments of the invention will now be described by reference to the following non-limited Examples.

Example 1

Solution 1

5 An aqueous solution containing a total of 30% by weight of mono and di-potassium phosphonate in roughly equal proportions.

Solution 2

An aqueous solution containing 55% by weight of ammonium thiosulphate ("ATS").

Solution 3

10 An aqueous solution containing 20 grams per litre of potassium salicylamide.

Solution 4

15 An aqueous solution containing 75 g/L mono potassium phosphonate, 75 g/L di-potassium phosphonate, 275 g/L ammonium thiosulphate and 10 g/L potassium salicylamide.

20 These solutions were applied to lettuce plants, both alone and in combination, and the applications were repeated after a 10 day interval. There were five replicates of each treatment and the results are presented as means of the five replicates. Five plants were also left unsprayed as an untreated control to the other treatments. After eight, twelve, sixteen and twenty-one days, the plants were examined for disease.

Table 1. Powdery Mildew Score (0 - 9, where higher number equals greater degree of disease)

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated 10 days later)	Days after first spray		
	8 days	12 days	16 days
Untreated	4.0	6.6	7.2
Solution 1 (1L/ha)	0.8	2.2	3.6
Solution 2 (1L/ha)	1.0	1.2	2.4
Solution 3 (1L/ha)	1.6	3.2	4.2
Solution 1 (1L/ha) + Solution 2 (1L/ha)	0.0	0.4	1.0
Solution 1 (1L/ha) + Solution 3 (1L/ha)	0.4	0.6	1.0
Solution 1 (1L/ha) + Solution 2 (1L/ha) + Solution 3 (1L/ha)	0.8	0.6	0.6

- 5 Table 1 shows the synergistic effect on disease levels achieved by adding Solutions 1 & 2 (phosphonate + ATS) and between Solutions 1 & 3 (phosphonate + salicylamide) and the further effect of using all three solutions together. Disease levels were reduced from a mean of 7.2 to a mean of 0.6

- As well as assessing disease levels, the growth of the plants was assessed by measuring the mean plant diameters after 35 days growth and by measuring the mean above ground fresh and dry weights.
- 10

Table 2. Plant Growth after treatment with the example solutions

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated 10 days later)	Amount of Rooting (0-9, 0= least rooting) - mean	Plant Diameter (mm) - mean	Above-Ground Fresh Weight (g) - mean	Above-Ground Dry Weight (g) - mean
Untreated	5.3	124	102.3	8.3
Solution 1 (1L/ha)	6.0	148	116.3	9.3
Solution 2 (1L/ha)	5.3	160	109.0	8.7
Solution 3 (1L/ha)	4.7	150	104.7	8.5
Solution 1 (1L/ha) + Solution 2 (1L/ha)	6.7	144	119.0	9.5
Solution 1 (1L/ha) + Solution 3 (1L/ha)	6.7	170	120.7	9.7
Solution 1 (1L/ha) + Solution 2 (1L/ha) + Solution 3 (1L/ha)	6.7	168	131.7	10.6

- 5 Table 2 shows the synergistic effect on plant growth caused by adding Solutions 1 & 2 (phosphonate + ATS), Solutions 1 & 3 (phosphonate + salicylamide) and the further effect of using all three solutions together.

The abbreviations used in the following Examples A-E are:

A = phosphonate + thiosulphate

B = phosphonate + salicylate/salicylamide

5 C = thiosulphate + salicylate/salicylamide

D = thiosulphate + salicylate/salicylamide + phosphite

E = thiosulphate + salicylate + chlormequat

KP40 = 40% potassium phosphonate

10 KT47 = 47% potassium thiosulphate (w/v)

KS20 = 20% potassium salicylate (w/v)

CS8 = salicylamide (20g/l)

AT60 = 60% ammonium thiosulphate

PF723 = 55% ammonium thiosulphate

15

Examples A

Solution 1 = KP40 at 0.75 l/ha every 10 days

Solution 2 = PF723 at 1.0 l/ha every 10 days

20

Table A1

Percent Powdery Mildew - Lettuce

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Days After First Spray		
	8 Days	12 Days	16 Days
Untreated	40	66	72
Solution 1 (1L/Ha)	8	22	36
Solution 2 (1L/Ha)	10	12	24
Solution 1 (1L/Ha) + Solution 2 (1L/Ha)	0	4	10

Table A2**Percent Powdery Mildew and Fertiliser Attributes – Sugar Beet**

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Days After First Spray		Above Ground Fresh Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)
	+ 28 Days (x 1 Rate)	+ 35 Days (x 1 Rate)	
Untreated	22	31	144.7
Solution 1	6	4	152.3
Solution 2	2	2	153.3
Solution 1 + Solution 2	0	0	154.3

Table A3**Fertiliser Attributes – Spring Barley**

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Plant Health 'Greenness' Score (0-9) +35 Days (x 1 Rate)	Above Ground Fresh Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)	Above Ground Dry Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)	Amount of Above Ground Tissue (0-9) at Harvest (x 1 Rate)
Untreated	5.6	68.8	7.7	5.0
Solution 1	5.6	67.0	7.4	5.3
Solution 2	5.4	68.3	7.2	5.3
Solution 1 + Solution 2	6.6	72.7	7.9	6.0

15

Table A4

GRAPE TRIAL
Percent Powdery Mildew

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated at 10 day intervals)	Days After First Spray					
	+ 16 Days	+ 20 Days	+ 24 Days	+ 28 Days	+ 32 Days	+ 36 Days
Untreated	7.3	9.3	11.3	14.0	14.0	14.7
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha	5.3	6.7	8.0	11.3	10.7	10.7
PF723 @ 1.0 l/ha	2.7	7.3	7.3	8.0	6.7	6.7
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + PF723 @ 1.0 l/ha	1.3	5.3	6.0	6.0	5.3	5.3

Table A5

LETTUCE TRIAL
Percent Powdery Mildew

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated at 10 day intervals)	Days After First Spray		
	+ 16 Days	+ 20 Days	+ 24 Days
Untreated	10.0	16.7	24.7
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha	7.3	12.0	16.0
PF723 @ 1.0 l/ha	8.0	12.0	15.3
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + PF723 @ 1.0 l/ha	5.3	8.7	14.0

Table A6

Broad Bean – Fertiliser Attributes

(KP40 = 40% Potassium Phosphite; PF723 = 55% Ammonium Thiosulphate)

Treatment (2 Applications in total - every 15 days)	Above Ground Fresh Weight (g) - Mean	Above Ground Dry Weight (g) - Mean
Untreated	143.8	14.6
KP40 (5.0 l/ha) + PF723 (0.5 l/ha)	150.7	15.5
KP40 (3.0 l/ha) + PF723 (0.5 l/ha)	160.3	16.1
KP40 (5.0 l/ha) + PF723 (1.0 l/ha)	168.0	17.3
KP40 (3.0 l/ha) + PF723 (1.0 l/ha)	161.3	16.8

Table A7

Sugar Beet

Percent Powdery Mildew and Fertiliser Attributes

(KP40 = 40% Potassium Phosphite; AT60 = 60% Ammonium Thiosulphate)

Treatment (2 Applications in total - every 15 days)	Days After First Spray		Root Fresh Weight (g) - Mean	Root Dry Weight (g) - Mean	Above Ground Fresh Weight (g) - Mean	Above Ground Dry Weight (g) - Mean
	+ 24 Days	+ 28 Days				
Untreated	14	24	83.0	12.2	137.8	15.3
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	0	4	90.3	12.9	142.3	15.3
KP40 (0.75 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	0	2	91.7	13.9	145.0	16.4
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	0	0	82.7	12.4	144.0	16.5
KP40 (0.75 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	0	0	97.7	13.6	145.3	15.5
KP40 (3.75 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	0	6	89.7	13.2	144.0	15.8
KP40 (2.5 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	2	8	89.7	14.0	143.3	15.4
KP40 (2.5 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	0	4	98.0	13.9	146.7	16.1

Table A8
Sugar Beet

Percent Powdery Mildew and Fertiliser Attributes

(KP40 = 40% Potassium Phosphate; AT60 = 60% Ammonium Thiosulphate)

Treatment (2 Applications in total - every 15 days)	Days After First Spray		Root Fresh Weight (g) - Mean	Root Dry Weight (g) - Mean	Above Ground Fresh Weight (g) - Mean	Above Ground Dry Weight (g) - Mean
	+ 24 Days	+ 28 Days				
Untreated	22	28	109.7	13.3	144.7	14.7
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	0	2	110.3	13.2	149.7	15.5
KP40 (0.75 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	0	2	118.7	13.8	147.7	15.1
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	0	6	117.7	13.6	151.3	15.0
KP40 (0.75 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	2	2	113.7	13.7	150.7	15.2
KP40 (3.75 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	0	0	119.0	14.2	150.7	15.0
KP40 (2.5 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	2	0	117.3	14.7	148.7	15.0
KP40 (2.5 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	2	2	119.7	14.0	154.3	15.6

Examples B

Solution 1 = KP40 at 0.75 l/ha

Solution 3 = CS8 at 1.0 l/ha

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Table B1**Fertiliser Attributes – Strawberry**

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Plant Health 'Greenness' Score (0-9) + 28 Days (x 1 Rate)	Above Ground Fresh Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)	Above Ground Dry Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)
Untreated	4.8	50.8	5.0
Solution1	5.6	53.7	5.1
Solution 3	6.0	56.0	5.6
Solution 1 + Solution 3	6.4	63.0	6.2

Table B2**Fertiliser Attributes – Spring Barley**

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Above Ground Fresh Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)	Above Ground Dry Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)	Amount of Above Ground Tissue (0-9) (x 1 Rate)
Untreated	77.3	8.6	5.0
Solution 1	78.3	8.7	5.3
Solution 3	75.0	8.4	5.3
Solution 1 + Solution 3	81.7	9.7	5.7

Table B3**Percent Powdery Mildew – Sugar Beet**

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Days After First Spray	
	+ 28 Days (x 1 Rate)	+ 32 Days (x 1 Rate)
Untreated	23	35
Solution 1	6	18
Solution 3	12	20
Solution 1 + Solution 3	0	12

Table B4

Fertiliser Attributes – Spring Barley

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Amount of Rooting (0-9) (x 1 Rate)	Amount of Above Ground Tissue (0-9) (x 1 Rate)
Untreated	5.2	5.0
Solution 1	5.3	5.7
Solution 3	6.0	5.7
Solution 1 + Solution 3	6.3	6.0

Table B5

Powdery Mildew - Grape

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated at 10 day intervals)	Days After First Spray					
	+ 16 Days	+ 20 Days	+ 24 Days	+ 28 Days	+ 32 Days	+ 36 Days
Untreated	7.3	9.3	11.3	14.0	14.0	14.7
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha	5.3	6.7	8.0	11.3	10.7	10.7
KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	5.3	6.7	8.0	11.3	9.3	11.3
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	1.3	2.7	4.0	5.3	4.7	4.7

Table B6

% Tuber Blight and Yield Attributes

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated at 10 day intervals)	Percent Tuber Blight (%)	Final Tuber Yield (g)	Final Tuber 'Quality' (Premium Potatoes) (0-9)	Mean Final 'First Grade' Tuber Yield (g)	Relative Final 'First Grade' Tuber Yield (%)
Untreated	6.0	241.7	4.73	114.3	100
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha	2.7	259.8	4.67	121.3	106
KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	3.3	255.6	5.07	129.6	113
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	0.7	267.4	5.67	151.6	133

Table B7

Percent Foliar Blight - Potato

Treatment (Applied initially & repeated at 10 day intervals)	Days after First Spray					
	+ 16 Days	+ 20 Days	+ 24 Days	+ 28 Days	+32 Days	+ 36 Days
Untreated	5.3	8.7	12.7	12.7	18.7	28.0
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha	2.7	3.3	6.7	8.7	9.3	13.3
KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	2.0	4.0	5.3	8.0	10.0	11.3
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	0.7	1.3	1.3	2.0	2.7	4.7

Examples C

Solution 2 = PF723 at 1.0 l/ha every 10 days

Solution 3 = CS8 at 1.0 l/ha every 10 days

Table C1

Percent Powdery Mildew - Grape

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated at 10 day intervals)	Days After First Spray					
	+ 16 Days	+ 20 Days	+ 24 Days	+ 28 Days	+ 32 Days	+ 36 Days
Untreated	7.3	9.3	11.3	14.0	14.0	14.7
KT47 @ 1.5 l/ha	4.7	6.7	8.0	9.3	9.3	9.3
KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	5.3	6.7	8.0	11.3	9.3	11.3
KT47 @ 1.5 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	2.7	5.3	6.7	8.7	7.3	6.7

Table C2

Fertiliser Attributes -- Broad Bean

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Amount of Rooting (0-9) (x 1 Rate)	Above Ground Fresh Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)	Above Ground Dry Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)
Untreated	5.3	143.8	14.6
Solution 2	5.3	155.7	16.1
Solution 3	5.3	155.0	15.7
Solution 2 + Solution 3	5.7	163.3	16.6

Table C3**Fertiliser Attributes – Peas**

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Plant Health 'Greenness' Score (0-9) + 28 Days (x 1 Rate)	Root Fresh Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)	Root Dry Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)	Amount of Above Ground Tissue (0-9) at Harvest (x 1 Rate)
Untreated	6.1	124.2	14.1	5.5
Solution 2	6.2	126.3	15.1	5.3
Solution 3	6.2	125.7	15.1	5.7
Solution 2 + Solution 3	6.4	130.7	15.6	6.0

Table C4**Fertiliser Attributes – Carrot**

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Root Dry Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)	Amount of Rooting (0-9) (x 1 Rate)	Amount of Above Ground Tissue (0-9) at Harvest (x 1 Rate)
Untreated	5.5	5.2	5.0
Solution 2	6.1	5.3	5.0
Solution 3	6.2	5.0	5.0
Solution 2 + Solution 3	6.4	5.7	5.7

Table C5**Percent Powdery Mildew – Oilseed Rape**

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Days After First Spray
	+ 35 Days (x 1 Rate)
Untreated	14
Solution 2	14
Solution 3	14
Solution 2 + Solution 3	8

15 Table C6**Fertiliser Attributes – Sugar Beet**

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Root Fresh Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)	Root Dry Weight (g) - Mean (x 1 Rate)
Untreated	109.7	13.3
Solution 2	111.7	13.3
Solution 3	113.7	13.4
Solution 2 + Solution 3	114.7	14.1

Table C7

Fertiliser Attributes - Strawberry

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated after a 10 day interval)	Plant Health 'Greenness' Score (0-9) + 35 Days (x 1 Rate)	Amount of Rooting (0-9) (x 1 Rate)
Untreated	5.0	5.2
Solution 2	6.0	5.7
Solution 3	6.6	5.3
Solution 2 + Solution 3	7.0	6.0

Examples D

POTATO TRIAL

Table D1

% Tuber Blight, Final Yield and Quality

Treatment (Applied initially and repeated at 10 day intervals)	Percent Tuber Blight (%)	Final Tuber Yield (g)	Relative Final Tuber Yield (%)	Final Tuber 'Quality' (Premium Potatoes) (0-9)	Mean Final 'First Grade' Tuber Yield (g)	Relative Final 'First Grade' Tuber Yield (%)
Untreated	6.0	241.7	100	4.73	114.3	100
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha	2.7	259.8	107	4.67	121.3d	106d
KT47 @ 1.5 l/ha	2.7	261.7	108	5.27	137.9a	121
KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	3.3	255.6	106	5.07	129.6	113
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + KT47 @ 1.5 l/ha	0.7	271.4	112	5.60	152.0	133
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	0.7	267.4	111	5.67	151.6	133
KT47 @ 1.5 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	0.7	272.2	113	5.60	152.4	133
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + KT47 @ 1.5 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	0.7	277.0	115	5.80	160.7	141

Table D2

POTATO TRIAL

% Tuber Blight, Yield and Quality Benefits

Treatment (Applied Initially and repeated at 10 day intervals)	Percent Tuber Blight (%)	Final Tuber Yield (g)	Final Tuber 'Quality' (Premium Potatoes) (0-9)	Mean Final 'First Grade' Tuber Yield (g)	Relative Final 'First Grade' Tuber Yield (%)
Untreated	14.0	256.1	5.80	148.5b	100b
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha	10.0	271.4	5.73	155.5	105
KT47 @ 1.5 l/ha	9.3	279.2	5.80	161.9	109
KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	9.3	292.0	5.73	167.3	113
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + KT47 @ 1.5 l/ha	4.0	280.4	5.80	162.6	109
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	4.7	286.3	5.80	166.1	112
KT47 @ 1.5 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	3.3	290.0	5.87	170.2	115
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + KT47 @ 1.5 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	1.3	278.0	6.07	168.7	114

Table D3

Spring Barley 1999

Percent Powdery Mildew and Fertiliser Attributes

(KP40 = 40% Potassium Phosphite; CS100 = 10g/litre Salicylamide; CS8 = 20g/l Salicylamide; AT60 = 60% Ammonium Thiosulphate)

Treatment (2 Applications in total - every 15 Days)	Days After First Spray	Plant Health 'Greenness' Score (0-9) + 28 Days	Plant Health 'Greenness' Score (0-9) + 35 Days	Amount of Rooting (0-9) - Mean	Above Ground Fresh Weight (g) - Mean	Above Ground Dry Weight (g) - Mean	Amount of Above Ground Tissue (0-9) - Mean
	+ 20 Days						
Untreated	7	5.4	5.6	5.3	68.8	7.7	5.0
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS100 (1.0 l/ha)	2	5.8	6.0	6.0	72.7	8.4	5.3
KP40 (0.75 l/ha) + CS100 (1.0 l/ha)	2	6.0	6.2	5.3	72.0	8.2	5.0
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS100 (0.5 l/ha)	2	5.8	5.4	6.0	75.3	8.5	5.7
KP40 (0.75 l/ha) + CS100 (0.5 l/ha)	4	5.6	5.8	6.3	68.7	7.5	5.3
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS100 (1.0 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	2	5.4	6.0	6.7	69.7	8.0	6.0
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS100 (0.5 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	2	5.6	6.2	6.0	68.7	7.9	5.7
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS100 (0.5 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	4	5.8	5.6	6.0	62.0	7.4	5.0
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS8 (0.05 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	0	5.2	5.4	6.0	69.0	7.8	5.3
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS8 (0.05 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	2	6.0	5.6	6.7	67.7	7.5	5.0
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS8 (0.25 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	0	5.4	5.0	5.7	69.7	7.4	5.0
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS8 (0.25 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	0	6.0	5.3	6.0	69.3	7.5	5.0

Table D4

Spring Barley

Percent Powdery Mildew and Fertiliser Attributes

(KP40 = 40% Potassium Phosphite; CS100 = 10g/litre Salicylamide; CS8 = 20g/l Salicylamide; AT60 = 60% Ammonium Thiosulphate)

Treatment (2 Applications in total - every 15 Days)	Amount of Rooting (0-9) - Mean	Above Ground Fresh Weight (g) - Mean	Above Ground Dry Weight (g) - Mean	Amount of Above Ground Tissue (0-9) - Mean
Untreated	5.2	73.0	9.1	5.0
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS100 (1.0 l/ha)	6.0	83.0	9.3	5.3
KP40 (0.75 l/ha) + CS100 (1.0 l/ha)	5.7	82.0	9.7	5.3
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS100 (0.5 l/ha)	5.0	77.7	8.6	6.0
KP40 (0.75 l/ha) + CS100 (0.5 l/ha)	6.0	76.7	8.7	5.0
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS100 (1.0 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	6.0	67.3	7.8	5.0
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS100 (0.5 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	6.0	68.3	8.1	5.0
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS100 (0.5 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	6.0	78.3	9.1	5.7
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS8 (0.05 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	5.7	76.0	8.8	5.7
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS8 (0.05 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	6.0	78.3	9.0	5.7
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS8 (0.25 l/ha) + AT60 (10.0 l/ha)	5.0	71.7	8.5	5.3
KP40 (0.375 l/ha) + CS8 (0.25 l/ha) + AT60 (6.0 l/ha)	5.7	72.0	8.1	5.0

LETTUCE TRIAL

Table D5

Fresh Weight Yield and Quality Benefits

(KP40 = 40% Potassium Phosphate; PF723 = 55% Ammonium Thiosulphate; KS20 = 20 gms/litre Potassium Salicylate)

Treatment (Applied Initially and repeated at 10 day intervals)	Final Fresh Weight Yield (g)	Quality of Final Fresh Weight Yield (0-9)	Final Fresh Weight 'Quality' Yield (g)	Relative Fresh Weight 'Quality' Yield (%)	Median Final Fresh Weight Yield (g)	Median Quality of Final Fresh Weight Yield (0-9)	Median Final Fresh Weight 'Quality' Yield (g)	Relative Median Fresh Weight 'Quality' Yield (%)
Untreated	81.3	5.33	43.4c	100c	80.6	5.27	42.5	100
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha	85.0	5.40	45.7	105	87.2	5.36	46.7	110
PF723 @ 1.0 l/ha	87.7	5.40	47.4	109	88.6	5.46	47.3	111
KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	83.6	5.67	47.4	109	82.6	5.64	48.6	110
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + PF723 @ 1.0 l/ha	89.8	5.63	50.6	117	89.8	5.64	50.6	119
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	80.9	5.53	50.3	116	90.6	5.64	51.1	120
PF723 @ 1.0 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	86.5	5.67	49.0	113	85.4	5.64	48.2	113
KP40 @ 0.75 l/ha + PF723 @ 1.0 l/ha + KS20 @ 1.0 l/ha	87.9	5.67	49.8	115	88.4	5.64	49.9	117

Examples E**Table E1**

5 Benefits of Ammonium Thiosulphate (ATS) and Potassium Salicylate (KS) with
Chlormequat (CCC) on Spring Barley

Treatment (Treatments applied at 3 leaves stage)	Powdery Mildew (%) at + 15 days	Amount of Rooting (0-9) Mean of 10 plants	Above Ground Fresh Weight (g) Total of 10 plants	Above Ground Dry Weight (g) Total of 10 plants
Untreated	25	5.8	30.5	3.4
CCC (1.25 l/ha)	15	5.5	34.0	3.7
CCC (1.25 l/ha) + ATS (1.25 l/ha)	13	6.0	31.5	3.6
CCC (1.25 l/ha) + KS (20 g/ha)	18	6.0	31.3	3.5
CCC (1.25 l/ha) + ATS (1.25 l/ha) + KS (20 g/ha)	8	6.5	36.0	4.0

Table E2

Benefits of Ammonium Thiosulphate (ATS) and Potassium Salicylate (KS) with
Chlormequat (CCC) on Spring Barley

Treatment (Treatments applied at 3 leaves stage (T1) and prior to start of stem extension (T2))	Powdery Mildew (%) at + 12 days	Powdery Mildew (%) at + 15 days	Powdery Mildew (%) at + 18 days	Number of Tillers Initiated per Plant (mean of 10 plants)
Untreated	20	25	38	3.0
CCC (0.8 l/ha at T1 & T2)	8	8	10	3.5
CCC (0.8 l/ha at T1 & T2) + ATS (0.8 l/ha at T1 & T2)	5	5	8	3.5
CCC (0.8 l/ha at T1 & T2) + KS (20 g/ha at T1 & T2)	8	8	13	3.3
CCC (0.8 l/ha at T1 & T2) + ATS (0.8 l/ha at T1 & T2) + KS (20 g/ha at T1 & T2)	0	3	5	4.3

The following show non-limiting examples of formulated compositions in accordance with the present invention

FOLIAR FERTILISER ONE

INGREDIENTS	Specific Gravity	Kilogram per batch	percentage w/w	Volume per batch	gram/litre of Ingredient	gram/litre of active
Water	1.000	150.0000	7.50000	150.0000	96.2564	96.2564
Wetting agent	1.000	10.0000	0.50000	10.0000	6.4171	6.4171
Salicylic Acid	1.000	10.0000	0.50000	10.0000	6.4171	6.4171
Potassium hydroxide (20% w/w)	1.200	130.0000	6.50000	108.3333	83.4222	83.4222
Copper EDTA chelate (14.3 % Cu w/w;	1.200	30.0000	1.50000	25.0000	19.2513	19.2513
Iron EDTA chelate (13.2 %Fe w/w)	1.200	30.0000	1.50000	25.0000	19.2513	19.2513
Pol. phosphites (42%w/w)	1.342	1,000.0000	50.00000	745.1565	641.7092	269.5179
Ammonium thiosulphate (60% w/w)	1.320	640.0000	32.00000	484.8485	410.6939	246.4163
Totals		2,000.0000	100.00000	1,558.3383	1,283.4184	746.9495

N	3.84 % w/w	49 g/litre w/v
P	4.68 % w/w	60 g/litre w/v
P as P ₂ O ₅ **	10.64 % w/w	137 g/litre w/v
K	9.91 % w/w	125 g/litre w/v
K as K ₂ O	11.93 % w/w	150 g/litre w/v
S	8.32 % w/w	107 g/litre w/v
S as SO ₃	20.80 % w/w	267 g/litre w/v
** theoretically		

FOLIAR FERTILISER TWO

INGREDIENTS	Specific Gravity	Kilogram per batch	percentage w/w	Volume per batch	gram/llitre of ingredient	gram/llitre of active
Water	1.000	150.0000	7.50000	150.0000	96.2564	96.2564
Wetting agent	1.000	10.0000	0.50000	10.0000	6.4171	6.4171
Zinc EDTA chelate (15.7% Zn w/w)	1.000	30.0000	1.50000	30.0000	19.2513	19.2513
Copper EDTA chelate (14.3% Cu w/w)	1.000	30.0000	1.50000	30.0000	19.2513	19.2513
Iron EDTA chelate (13.2% Fe w/w)	1.000	30.0000	1.50000	30.0000	19.2513	19.2513
Pot. phosphites (42%w/w)	1.342	750.0000	37.50000	558.8674	481.2819	202.1384
Ammonium thiosulphate (60% w/w)	1.320	1,000.0000	50.00000	757.5758	641.7092	385.0255
Totals		2,000.0000	100.00000	1,566.4431	1,283.4184	747.5912

N	6.00 % w/w	77 g/llitre w/v
P	3.51 % w/w	45 g/llitre w/v
P as P ₂ O ₅ **	7.98 % w/w	102 g/llitre w/v
K	6.96 % w/w	88 g/llitre w/v
K as K ₂ O	8.39 % w/w	105 g/llitre w/v
S	13.00 % w/w	167 g/llitre w/v
S as SO ₃	32.50 % w/w	417 g/llitre w/v
** theoretically		

The above Examples show that the compositions of the present invention show the desired fertilisation and antifungal effects.

CLAIMS

1. A fertiliser composition comprising at least one phosphonate and at least
5 one thiosulphate.
2. A fertiliser composition comprising at least one phosphonate and at least
one salicylic acid, homologue, derivative, or salt thereof.
- 10 3. A fertiliser composition according to claim 2 further comprising at least
one thiosulphate.
4. A fertiliser composition comprising at least one thiosulphate and at least
one salicylic acid, homologue, derivative, or salt thereof.
15
5. A fertiliser composition according to any one of claims 1-3 wherein the
phosphonate is ammonium, sodium or potassium phosphonate or a mixture
thereof.
- 20 6. A fertiliser composition according to any one of claims 1 and 3-5 wherein
the thiosulphate is ammonium, sodium or potassium thiosulphate or a mixture
thereof.
7. A fertiliser composition according to any one of claims 2-6 wherein the
25 derivative of salicylic acid is salicylamide or a salt thereof.
8. A fertiliser composition according to any one of claims 2-6 wherein the
homologue of salicylic acid is benzoic acid or a salt or derivative thereof.

9. A fertiliser composition according to any of claims 2-7 wherein the salt of salicylic acid, its homologue or derivative is an organic or inorganic salt.
10. A fertiliser composition according to claim 9 wherein the salt is a sodium or potassium salt or mixtures thereof.
11. A fertiliser composition according to any preceding claim in the form of a concentrate.
12. A fertiliser composition according to any one of claims 1-10 in the form of an aqueous solution.
13. A fertiliser composition according to claim 12 comprising 150 g/l phosphonate, 275 g/l thiosulphate and/or 10 g/l salicylamide.
14. A fertiliser composition according to claim 13 wherein the phosphonate comprises 75 g/l mono-potassium phosphonate and 75 g/l di-potassium phosphonate.
15. A fertiliser composition according to any preceding claim further comprising a plant growth regulator.
16. A fertiliser composition according to claim 15 wherein the plant growth regulator is chlormequat.
17. A method for fertilising a plant comprising applying a fertiliser composition according to any preceding claim to the plant or its environs.
18. A method according to claim 17 wherein the phosphonate is applied at 150 g/ha to 2 kg/ha.

19. A method according to claim 17 or claim 18 wherein the thiosulphate is applied at 250 g/ha to 6 kg/ha.
- 5 20. A method according to any one of claims 17 to 19 wherein at least one salicylic acid, a homologue, derivative, or salt thereof is applied at 1 g/ha to 100 g/ha.
- 10 21. Use of a fertiliser composition according to any one of claims 1-16 to stimulate plant growth.
22. Use of a fertiliser composition according to any one of claims 1-16 to control parasitic fungi.

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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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(54) Title: PHOSPHONATE OR THIOSULFATE BASED FERTILISERS

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a liquid fertiliser comprising a mixture of a salt of phosphorous acid together with either a thiosulphate such as ammonium or potassium thiosulphate and/or a salt of salicylic acid or salicylic amide. The use of this combination as a foliar spray, soil drench or irrigation component produces a greater fertiliser effect (on plant vigour and growth) and greater resistance to or control of parasitic fungal diseases, than each of the components applied individually or any combination of just two components.

WO 00/46169 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/GB 00/0367

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 C05B17/00 C05D9/00 C05D9/02 C05G3/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C05B C05D C05G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 795 847 A (NIELSEN ERIK ET AL) 18 August 1998 (1998-08-18) column 9, line 1 - line 66	1,5,6, 11,12,17
A	US 5 865 870 A (HSU HSINHUNG JOHN) 2 February 1999 (1999-02-02) column 1, line 59 - column 2, line 29 claims	1,5-22
A	US 5 707 418 A (HSU HSINHUNG JOHN) 13 January 1998 (1998-01-13) cited in the application the whole document	1,5-22
	-/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 August 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

15. 09. 2000

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inter national Application No

PCT/GB 00/0367

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 514 200 A (LOVATT CAROL J) 7 May 1996 (1996-05-07) cited in the application column 2, line 58 -column 6, line 20 claims	1,5-22
A	BIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS, vol. 1, 1996 Philadelphia, PA, US; abstract no. 193987, SEVENIER, ROBERT ET AL: "Ethylene production and involvement during the first steps of durum wheat (Triticum durum) anther culture." XP002133847 abstract & PHYSIOLOGIA PLANTARUM, (1996) VOL. 96, NO. 1, PP. 146-151.,	1
X	US 5 047 078 A (GILL JASBIR S) 10 September 1991 (1991-09-10) claims column 2, line 47 -column 3, line 29	2,5, 8-11,17, 21
X	EP 0 878 129 A (ISKRA INDUSTRY CO LTD) 18 November 1998 (1998-11-18) claims page 1, line 27 -page 3, line 2 page 5, line 22 - line 25	2,5,7,9, 11,12, 15,17, 21,22
X	DD 226 755 A (ADL FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM FUER BOD) 4 September 1985 (1985-09-04) the whole document	2,5, 8-11,17, 21
X	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 199431 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class E19, AN 1994-252656 XP002146194 & JP 06 183903 A (HYPONEX JAPAN KK), 5 July 1994 (1994-07-05) abstract	4

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.
PCT/JP90/00367

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1 (totally), 5-22 (partially)

Fertiliser composition comprising at least one phosphonate and at least one thiosulphate, a method for fertilising a plant by applying this composition and its use to stimulate plant growth and to control parasitic fungi.

2. Claims: 2 (totally), 3 (totally), 5-22 (partially)

Fertiliser composition comprising at least one phosphonate and at least one salicylic acid, homologue, etc, a method for fertilising a plant by applying this composition and its use to stimulate plant growth and to control parasitic fungi.

3. Claims: 4 (totally), 6-22 (partially)

Fertiliser composition comprising at least one thiosulphate and at least one salicylic acid, homologue, etc., a method for fertilising a plant by applying this composition and its use to stimulate plant growth and to control parasitic fungi.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 03/00367

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